

**Department of Public Works and Transportation**

***DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES***



*Staff provides assistance to citizens at Taste of Wheaton event.*

***MONTHLY REPORT***  
***MAY 2000***



*Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper*

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## **OVERVIEW**

### **Tonnage at a Glance**

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, during the fiscal years to date (FY Total), and during the current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2000 began July 1, 1999.)

<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>May FY 00</b>	<b>FY 00 Total</b>	<b>May FY 99</b>	<b>May FY 98</b>
Materials Recycling Facility <sup>(1)</sup>	6,033 Tons	57,116 Tons	4,661 Tons	5,104 Tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility	14,475 Tons	127,956 Tons	15,628 Tons	12,290 Tons
American Ash Recycling <sup>(2)</sup>	3,345 Tons	33,727 Tons	N/A	N/A
Resource Recovery Facility <sup>(3)</sup>	47,980 Tons	455,244 Tons	39,024 Tons	39,914 Tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	5,577 Tons	53,281 Tons	5,747 Tons	5,868 Tons

<sup>(1)</sup>For FY00, MRF tons reported are outgoing. For previous years, incoming was reported.

<sup>(2)</sup>Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

<sup>(3)</sup>RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY00, these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

**Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation** – Completed 10-month revenue review. Coordinated work on fixed assets inventory and depreciation schedule. Reviewed monthly tonnage reporting for internal consistency. Completed field audits of hauler/collector reports submitted for the July 1 through December 31, 1999 period. Drafted modifications to hauler/collector reporting form for next reporting period. Assisted with interviews for open Program Manager position. Reviewed first draft of consultant report on waste generation study and provided extensive comments to project team. Attended Council's hearing on FY01 rate resolution. Drafted letter to haulers to promote awareness of lowered MRF fees. Prepared response to owner inquiries on past nonresidential appeals. Prepared refund calculations for owners of single-family residences who had paid for, but not received curbside recycling service. Prepared mass flow diagram of County solid waste flows to facilitate communications on tonnage tracking and calculation of recycling rates. Drafted ACCESS™-based format for recycling calculation report for use in the FY00 report. Prepared

responses to Office of Inspector General follow-up queries. Attended Waste Expo 2000, obtained data on new variable rate technologies, and drafted additional materials for Variable Rate Feasibility project.

## **CITIZEN COMMITTEES**

**Facilities Implementation Group (FIG)** – FIG meeting was held on May 16, 2000 with a tour of the bagging operation at the compost facility at 7:00 p.m. After the tour, the group met at the 7:30 p.m. at the Gothic Barn, 20900 Martinsburg Road. The next meeting will take place on July 18, 2000. FIG will meet with Mr. Duncan on July 13 at 6:00 p.m. at the EOB.

**Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission (OLAC)** – OLAC's spring quarterly meeting occurred on May 10 at the Laytonsville Elementary School. OLAC presented its recommendation to the community about the final land use of the landfill, which is that the site should be used for passive recreational purposes. Staff from the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission were on hand to present a conceptual outline of the proposed use.

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)** – SWAC met Tuesday, May 2, with nine newly appointed SWAC members in attendance. The committee was briefed on the Commercial and Multi-Family Recycling Programs. The MCPS representative, Mr. Richard Hawes, was unable to attend but will be present at the September meeting

## **COLLECTIONS**

**Refuse** – Refuse collections were normal with no problems that disrupted the scheduled services.

**Recycling** – Mixed Paper recycling started in Area 3 on Monday, May 22 adding another 14,133 homes to the program. This brings the current count to 10,231 or 54.5% of our customer population. The advance work has been completed for the Mixed Paper start up in Areas 4 and 12, which includes neighborhoods in Silver Spring, Forest Glen, Forest Estates, Germantown and the entire western part of the County surrounding the Poolesville/Dickerson Area. The Mixed Paper drop-off sites received a total of 50,520 lbs. of paper, the most of any month since the program started.

**Contractor Performance** – During the month of May, there were 18 complaints not resolved by the contractors. The County corrected all 18 issues. The number of complaints received this month totaled 608. This represents a 4.8% increase from May 1999, which had a total of 580 complaints. Of those complaints, 51.2% were yard trim issues and all the

contractors have been cautioned about the need for an extra effort during this heavy growing season.

**Enforcement Actions** – For the month of May, 7 tickets were issued in the amount of \$4,250.00 for violations of County Solid Waste laws. Five tickets were written for no covers in place in the amount of \$2,500.00. One ticket was written for no collection tag on vehicle in the amount of \$500.00 and two tickets for collecting solid waste before 7:00 a.m. in the amount of \$1,250.00. Nine Notices of Violations (NOV) were written in May. Six NOVs were for no covers in place; two NOVs for allowing solid waste to accumulate and one NOV for a bad container.

**Customer Service** – For the month of May, there were 7,514 incoming calls with 133 follow-up calls as a quality control check and 355 other miscellaneous services handled by the Customer Service staff. Also, 1,583 recycle bins were delivered.

**Volunteer Activities** – During the month of May, Master Recycler/Composter program volunteers contributed 208.5 hours of service and reached an audience of approximately 3,813 people. The volunteers handled 474 calls to the recycling hotline with an additional 327 calls coming into the answering machine. The main topics of conversation were Mixed Paper, 20.0%; residential questions; 17.1% and Household Hazardous Waste, 15.4%. The Volunteer activities included work at all 6 weekend mixed paper drop-offs, two Household Hazardous Waste Collections (Shady Grove and Briggs Chaney), and several Community Festivals such as “The Taste of Wheaton”.

## **WASTE MINIMIZATION**

**Drop-off Programs** – The Reuse-it Again guide, third edition, will enter its 4<sup>th</sup> printing in June. This edition is the most popular and comprehensive guide to date. An IFB for shopping bags was put out in late May. Bags will promote waste reduction through their use and tips printed on the bag.

**Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities** – Full schedule of display ads for Grasscycling currently running in the Gazette and Journal Newspapers.

Environmental gardening column (Green Man) with Gazette Newspapers continues. Residents are using the email address listed in the column and in the web version to present questions about lawn and garden care: turf variety selection, IPM, etc.

Working with the two River Road locations of the American Plant Food Co. to provide County compost bins to residents.

Met at Linden Farm to discuss plant materials for use at the gray water treatment mound. Plant list developed and posted on website <<http://www.co.mo.md.us/services/dep/Landscape/xeriscape.htm>>. After planting, digital photos will be taken at site and posted on website, along with a column in the Gazette Newspaper to promote the use of non-turf, natural plantings, such as those to be found at the Gothic Barn.

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection** – In May, 78 citizens, who could not attend the next scheduled event, visited the Transfer Station to drop off household hazardous waste. Two HHW events were held, one at the Transfer Station and one at the Briggs Chaney Park and Ride. There were 671 and 263 participants, respectively.

**Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program** – One Ecowise event was held in May with 12 companies in attendance.

## **AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**

**Resource Recovery Facility - CEM Tracking of RRF Operations** – In May, the Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEM) indicated that unit #3 ran continuously all month, unit #2 ran continuously from May 9 and unit #1 ran continuously until May 19. At approximately 11 PM on May 19, unit #1 was brought offline because of broken grates. Repair work was completed in about four days and the unit was brought back on line at 2 AM on May 23 and ran continuously again until the end of the month. With the exception of the incident discussed above, there were no other equipment malfunctions in May that affected unit operations or stack emissions.

The set of ten CEM CDROMS was updated to include CEM data up to April 30, 2000. A new set of ten CDROMS containing stack emissions data from 15 stack tests (including November 1999 stack test) was generated. Copies of both CDROMS are located in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and were distributed to DSWS staff and citizen committees, including SWAC and FIG.

As of May 31, the RRF had not received the "Title V Air Permit to operate" from MDE. Because the current operation permit will expire on October 31, 2000, Ogden will prepare the renewal application in June for review by the FIG Air Quality Sub-Committee in July. The application will be submitted to MDE in September 2000.

**Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility - Leachate Evaporation Technology** – In May, the Leachate Thermal Treatment System (LTTS) operated for 19 days evaporating, on the average, 5 gallons of leachate per minute. The system was shutoff from May 1 to May 5 and May 22 to May 30 for routine maintenance of the leachate pump. The ground flare continued to operate burning the landfill gas.

**Yard Trim Composting Facility - Consent Agreement Evaluation** – In May, one wet sampling event was conducted for the spring season under the One-year Evaluation Program required by the Consent Agreement. The last and final wet sampling event and one summer dry sampling event are planned for early June. The sampling program will conclude in June and ENSR is expected to complete the project report in August. DSWs plans to meet with MDE in September to discuss the results of the program and future actions.

**Facilities Implementation Group (FIG) Air Quality Subcommittee** – The Air Quality Subcommittee of the Facilities Implementation Group (FIG) which was formed in April had its first meeting on May 10. Dr. Houston Miller (Chair), Dr. Morton Goldman (SWAC), Abigail Lindstrom (SWAC-FIG), Mickey Lynn (PEPCO) and Brad Crispell (OGDEN) attended the meeting. Dr. Ramana Rao and James Reynolds from DSWs discussed the role of this committee. Dr. Rao serves as the lead coordinator for the Committee.

Dr. Rao explained in detail the background for the formation of the committee for implementing the recommendations of the 1997 Facilities Master Plan for the Solid Waste Operations in the Dickerson area. Several documents pertaining to the RRF emissions, ambient sampling data and air permits were distributed for the committee's review. A pair of CDROMs, one containing the CEM data and the other containing the RRF stack test data, were distributed to each of the following committees: SWAC (Dr. Goldman), FIG (Abby Lindstrom) and AQ Sub-Committee Chair (Dr. Houston Miller). The work scope for the update of the RRF Health Risk Assessment and emission factors information was mailed to the committee members in May. The next meeting of the Sub-Committee is scheduled for June 14. The committee's comments will be discussed at this meeting.

**Contractual Work** – ENSR continues work on updating the RRF Health Risk study, Cumulative Health Risk Study and Epidemiological Study. Draft reports on these topics are expected in FY01. RAS ENTERPRISES continues to update the weather station data.

## **RECYCLING**

**Public Outreach** – The comprehensive campaign continues to run. The staff's presentations to community associations and groups on curbside recycling and

the mixed paper recycling program continue. Spring festivals and activities keep staff busy offering recycling information and assistance to the community.

The SORRT awareness campaign continues. Response has been strong. Calls regarding business recycling and the SORRT Program have increased since the campaign began. The campaign includes a 30-second TV advertisement, two 60-second radio spots, transit advertisements and print advertisements.

A partnership between the Division and the MCPS Department of Facilities Management has been formed to improve the MCPS recycling program and recycling rate throughout the County's public schools. Staff is a member of and provides technical assistance to the Recycling Committee formed by MCPS to provide guidance and oversight to their recycling efforts.

The new web site address for the County's recycling program is [www.MCRecycles.org](http://www.MCRecycles.org). Other related web site addresses for specific County recycling programs are: [www.SORRT.org](http://www.SORRT.org) and [www.TRRAC.org](http://www.TRRAC.org). Improvements and additions to these sites are being made more quickly, and over the coming months broad additions will be made.

**Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction** – Staff participated in a full schedule of events. Staff was involved in outreach efforts that included several Truck Day events, a Strawberry Festival, Taste of Wheaton, and both Comsat campuses. Staff's outreach efforts exceeded 7,300 contacts.

Two videos on recycling for MCPS are in progress and will be made ready for the opening of the school year in September. Staff remains focused on support to the MCPS recycling program. We are still in the process of setting up its three model recycling programs and will be done before the opening of the school year.

This month we celebrated "Recycling at the Work Place Week". The week included events at several schools and a recycling theme day at Cabin John Regional Park. Local business sponsored teams and local celebrities participated in competitive relay games that involved recycling. The most significant part of the week was an Honoree luncheon, which highlighted the recycling achievements of 50 businesses, individuals, and schools.

**MCPS Recycling Activities** – MCPS recycled 10% of its waste stream during the month of May.

**Multi-Family Recycling** – On-site evaluations of recycling programs continue. The Division continues to conduct a bin effectiveness study. A campaign to increase awareness of the T.R.R.A.C. (Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums) Program is under development.

**Mixed Paper Recycling** – The refrigerator magnet reminding people of all the items collected for recycling at the curb and the vinyl stickers for blue bins are



being prepared for mailing to all those areas which had their mixed paper collection start prior to the creation of these materials. Another outreach effort, which continues in support of the mixed paper recycling program, is a follow-up telephone survey. This survey is designed to be a short, friendly phone call to ask people about their experience with the new mixed paper recycling program. It is conducted about two weeks after the household's service has begun.

## **FACILITY ACTIVITIES**

**Resource Recovery Facility** – Waste deliveries from the Transfer Station remained high, and two units operated for approximately half of the month – three units operated for the other half. Units were generally operated at 85% load during evening hours and 70% load during the weekend to maximize electricity revenues. Unit #1 was taken off line to repair broken grate bars and remained off line for a few days as part of refuse pit management procedures. There were 47,980 tons of waste processed at the Facility, averaging 1,548 tons per day.

Unit #2 was brought on line in response to PEPCO's Maximum Emergency Generation (Max-gen) alert on May 8. A Max-gen status was called on May 9, and lasted approximately 4 hours. On May 28, 29, and 30 PEPCO declared Minimum Emergency Generation status. The three minimum generation events resulted in a total loss of approximately 438 MWh, and \$11,000 in total lost revenue.

The Facility sold 28,155 MWh during the month, for approximately \$750,000 in revenues.

During routine maintenance procedures on May 14, the turbine was tripped off line. Recovery was made almost immediately and the turbine was re-synchronized to the grid.

At the request of the ash recycling contractor (AARPA), a two-week test was conducted for adding different quantities of dolomite to the ash. The test was for AARPA to determine if varying concentrations of dolomite affected recycling operations.

CSX rail service continues to have lapses. There were a few days of unacceptable service.

There was 2,589 tons of yard material shipped by the rail system this month.

Approximately 3,345 tons of ash was shipped to the American Ash Recycling, Inc. facility in York, PA for recycling.

There were no reportable air or water quality excursions during the month. Ogden's regional environmental engineer was on site several days during the month. The following reports were submitted in the month:

April 2000 water supply report was submitted to MDE.

Air emissions data CDROMs were updated.

Air emission permit renewal application was drafted for review by FIG.

A hydraulic oil spill occurred in the railyard because of a loose hose fitting on one of the gantry cranes. Cleanup was initiated immediately and no off-site impact occurred. Notifications were made to the County and MDE and reports were submitted, all in accordance with procedures.

Mr. Ron Wicks of MDE inspected the facility for NPDES permit requirements. Mr. Wicks noted no substantial findings. His report is expected within the next couple of months.

Samples of ash were taken on May 17 and tested to update ash characteristic data on file with the Brunswick Landfill.

On May 22, Mr. Al Genetti, Director of Public Works and Transportation, and Mr. Roy Simpson, Facility Manager, accepted the "Waste-to-Energy Facility of the Year" award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Solid Waste Processing Division.

Three tours were given to representatives from Poland and Greece, and a group of home-school children.

**Materials Recovery Facility** – Approximately 1,769 tons of old newspaper, 1,540 tons of commingled material, and 2,725 tons of mixed paper were shipped out after processing.

A design for a stand-alone building was selected for the west wing expansion. Design work continues.

A damaged wall panel on the tipping floor was replaced, and a translucent panel was installed around the loading dock.

Work to replace broken concrete block in front of the recycling center is scheduled for June.

**Oaks Landfill** – The contractor for the Phase II closure construction, Barbella Environmental Technology, Inc., continued placing soil cover and seeding the final Phase II areas. Barbella is approximately 93% complete with the construction work. Most of the remaining work consists of storm water drainage structures, road improvements, relocation of excess soils to the Phase

I area and final grading and stabilization of the site. Trees were planted on top of the soil berm adjacent to the maintenance building and new ground floor.

Cherry Hill Construction, the contractor for the Phase I closure construction (about 68 acres on the western side of the landfill) recommenced geomembrane liner installation on about 20 additional acres of the Phase I area and is placing geocomposite and soil over the completed liner areas. Cherry Hill is also continuing work on several drainage structures. Construction is approximately 50% complete.

Monitoring of the gas migration problem on the north side of the landfill indicates that the five extraction wells installed continue to achieve further reductions in methane migration. All wells but one have no detectable methane. One well of concern is at about 14% but has been showing a downward trend. SCS Engineers Field Services recommended continuing to monitor the methane levels for now to see if reductions continue.

**Transfer Station** – During May, Ogden Martin shipped via rail 44,690 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility, 1,042 tons more than shipped in May 1999.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

Several recycling boxes used in the Public Unloading Facility were scrapped and painted.

Work continued on correcting electrical problems affecting outdoor lighting. The contractor for the Nonprocessable Waste facility continues work on the roof and on the structural steel to address punch list items identified during quality assurance inspections.

The replacement of lighting on the tipping floor was completed.

Repairs to both the entrance and exit door were completed.

Atlantic Builders Group, Inc. poured several concrete retaining walls at the future yard waste loadout area. A plan was established and initiated for rock removal along a planned storm water line and new access road near the rail yard.

**Site 2 Landfill Properties** – DSWS continues with the development of the scope of work to renovate the historic Chiswell farmhouse.

**Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan** – Fifty trees and 25 shrubs were replanted on the big berm at the intersection of Martinsburg and Washe Roads by TruGreen Lawncare to bring the survival rate of the plantings on the berm to 85%.

**Yard Trim Compost Facility** – As of May 7, bagging is being done only at the Compost Facility in Dickerson. There were 44,250 bags of Leafgro produced at the Facility and 21,200 bags were shipped to distributors. At the Transfer Station, 7,500 bags of Leafgro were produced and 11,250 bags were shipped to distributors.

There was 5,577 tons of grass received at Dickerson for composting. There were 9,521 cubic yards of Leafgro sold in bulk.

**Out-of-County Haul**

**Brunswick County, Virginia** – During the month of May, about 9,954 tons of ash residue and 4,521 tons of nonprocessible waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, VA. There were 1,294 tons of dirt, rock and wood recycled at Clean Rock in Hagerstown, MD. The amount of rubble material, both DOT-type nonprocessible waste and recyclable dirt, rock, concrete, etc., continue to be much higher than in previous years.

**York, Pennsylvania** – During the month of May, 3,345 tons of ash residue (back hauled by rail from the RRF) were shipped from the Transfer Station to American Ash Recycling in York, Pennsylvania to be recycled into aggregate.

**Linden Farm Renovations** – The project is substantially complete but some items remain to be completed. Remaining construction activities being managed by DFS are in progress.

Phase I of the plantings to screen the Compost Facility from the Linden Farm is complete. The County and Sugarloaf are working with a landscape design firm to complete design of Phase II this fall.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Important Telephone Numbers**

General information on solid waste- 240/777-6400

Customer Service- 240/777-6410

Recycling Hotline- 301/590-0046 (Hours of operation: Mon. - Fri., 1:00 - 4:00 PM)

Transfer Station- 301/840-2370

Materials Recovery Facility- 301/417-1447- Maryland Environmental Service

Resource Recovery Facility- 301/349-5685 County Office  
301/916-3031 Ogden Martin Systems of Montgomery

Yard Trim Compost Facility- 301/428-8185

Internet for DSWS- [www.dpwt.com](http://www.dpwt.com), then click on Solid Waste Services

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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## SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

<b><i>TOPIC OR FACILITY</i></b>	
Current Recycling Rate in Montgomery County	36%
Recycling Goal by 2000	50%
New Recycling Programs Scheduled for FY 00	Implementation of Residential Mixed Paper Collection
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 tpd on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations Limited to Receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY 99 tons received- 59,800
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	82,599
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	195,405
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

## ***GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS***

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CEM	Continuous Emissions Monitoring
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
mg/l	milligrams per liter
MNCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility